18. Explain the historical evolution of Standard English and its impact on modern English.

19. Analyse the influence of Latin, Greek, and French on the English language.

20. Analyse the factors that contributed to the rise of English as a world language.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025

FEN42/CEN42 — HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Time : Three hours Maximum : 75 marks

SECTION A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

1. Mention any two characteristics of the English language.

2. Name two major language branches in the Indo-European family.

3. What is a loanword? Give an example.

4. Define 'semantic narrowing' with an example.

5. What was the Great Vowel Shift?

6. Name one major contribution of Samuel Johnson's dictionary.

7. Give an example of an English word borrowed from Latin.

8. Name two major differences between British and American English.

9. What is one reason English is considered a global language?

10. Give one example of a spelling difference between British and American English.

SECTION B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

11. (a) How has the flexibility of word order contributed to the growth of English?

Or

(b) Explain how the Indo-European language family influenced the development of English.

12. (a) Bring out the role of technological advancements in the expansion of English vocabulary.

Or

(b) Describe any two major types of semantic changes with examples.

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13. (a) How did the Great Vowel Shift affect English pronunciation?

Or

(b) Discuss the role of dictionaries in the standardization of English.

14. (a) Explain the influence of Greek on English vocabulary.

Or

(b) How has the French language contributed to the development of English?

15. (a) Discuss how American English has influenced international communication.

Or

(b) Explain the role of globalization in the spread of English as a world language.

SECTION C — (3 × 10 = 30 marks)

Answer any THREE questions.

16. Discuss the key characteristics of the English language with suitable examples.

17. Discuss the different ways in which the English vocabulary has grown over time with examples.